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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**VISALIA MAN INDICTED FOR RECEIPT AND
POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

FRESNO-- United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that a federal grand jury returned a two-count indictment charging JOSEPH BAILEY, 24, of Visalia, California with receiving and possessing child pornography.

This case is the product of an extensive, joint investigation by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) office investigated by Special Agent Mike Prado and Fresno County Sheriff's Detective Kevin Wiens, and the Visalia Police Department's Detective Jim Carr.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Sherrill A. Carvalho, who is prosecuting the case, the indictment alleges that from about October 3, 2005, until about October 31, 2005, BAILEY received and possessed computer images of child pornography.

According to court documents previously filed in this case, ICE began its investigation when information was received from the Visalia Police Department that BAILEY was arrested on October 31, 2005 for the repeated sexual abuse/molestation of a nine-year-old. During the course of that investigation, BAILEY admitted to having child pornography on his computer. Specifically, he admitted that he previously obtained "several hundred" images of child pornography from the Internet, primarily via the Peer to Peer file-sharing program "Bearshare." A federal search warrant was executed on his computer hard drive on November 8, 2005. Forensic examination revealed numerous images of child pornography contained on BAILEY's computer hard drive.

If convicted, the mandatory minimum penalty under federal law for the offense of receipt of child pornography is five years and the maximum penalty is 20 years, and the maximum penalty for possession of child pornography is 10 years, and a maximum fine of \$250,000 for each count.

The charges are only allegations and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

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